

REMARKS

Claims 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10-13 are now presented for examination. Claims 6 and 12 have been rewritten in independent form, incorporating all the recitations of their respective base claims and intervening claims. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 14 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. In addition, Claim 13 has been amended in a fashion analogous to Claim 6, and to be directed to a computer-readable medium, rather than to a program. The dependency of the other remaining claims has been changed accordingly. Claims 6, 12 and 13 are independent. Formal changes have been made to the specification. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 6 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim, and with no change in scope. Since those claims have been so rewritten, and Claim 13 has been amended in the same fashion, all the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Since each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is also respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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